

R E S O L U T I O N

1        WHEREAS, The University of Mary Hardin-Baylor in Belton is  
2 marking the 180th anniversary of its founding with a Charter  
3 Celebration on April 11 and 12, 2025; and

4        WHEREAS, The oldest continually operating university in  
5 Texas, UMHB traces its roots to February 1, 1845, when the Ninth  
6 Congress of the Republic of Texas approved the charter for a new  
7 Baptist university in Independence; the school was initially  
8 established with a preparatory division and coeducational classes,  
9 and in 1851, separate female and male departments were created; the  
10 female department became Baylor Female College in 1866, and in  
11 1886, the school was relocated to Belton; that same year, the male  
12 department consolidated with Waco University, retaining the name  
13 Baylor University; and

14       WHEREAS, Through the years, the school underwent several name  
15 changes, including Baylor College for Women in 1925, Mary  
16 Hardin-Baylor College in 1934, and the University of Mary  
17 Hardin-Baylor in 1978; among its many historic milestones, it  
18 served as a model for the Baptist Student Union in 1920, established  
19 the first school of journalism in a women's college in the United  
20 States in 1921, and became the first Texas Baptist college to be  
21 accepted as a full member of the Southern Association of Colleges  
22 and Schools in 1926; in 1971, the school became coeducational; and

23       WHEREAS, Today, UMHB boasts an enrollment of approximately  
24 3,400 students and employs more than 400 full-time faculty and

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1 staff; moreover, the school has remained dedicated to Christian  
2 higher education and has distinguished itself as a leading  
3 institution in the fields of business, nursing, education, and  
4 church leadership; and

5 WHEREAS, Since its inception, the University of Mary  
6 Hardin-Baylor has provided its students with an education that has  
7 enriched them both academically and spiritually, and in so doing,  
8 it has made important contributions to Texas and the world beyond;  
9 now, therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 89th Texas  
11 Legislature hereby commemorate the 180th anniversary of the  
12 University of Mary Hardin-Baylor and extend to the UMHB community  
13 sincere best wishes for a memorable and meaningful celebration;  
14 and, be it further

15 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
16 prepared for the university as an expression of high regard by the  
17 Texas House of Representatives.

Hickland

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 249 was adopted by the House on March 6, 2025, by a non-record vote.

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Chief Clerk of the House